

Brandon Dombroski
1020 Forbes Street
East Hartford, CT 06118
Dombroski@hartford.edu

February 24th, 2011

Dear Mr. Malloy,

I am writing you to ask that you reconsider your current position with regards to financial aid in the state of Connecticut, when it comes to private universities. Before your recent election, you talked greatly about the importance of higher education however your current position is going to destroy my opportunity to get higher education. I am currently a student at The University of Hartford. Unfortunately The University of Hartford is a private school and your current plan has a detrimental impact on the education of every Connecticut student, who attends the university. When I made my decision on colleges last year, I chose a private school for the smaller classes and individual attention. Although I had the chance to attend an out of school state, I chose to attend a Connecticut college and your proposed bill makes me question that decision.

Not only do I feel that your proposed bill is discrimination against students who attend private schools but, I also question the effectiveness of the bill. Personally, if I was to lose my scholarships, I would probably transfer to a school in another state or, attend a state school. Should myself and students in similar situations, choose to attend state schools, the required budget for Connecticut state schools would increase. This will also lead to state schools being more selective, and eliminate the possibility for many students to attend a four year university. Continuing to help students who attend private schools seems to be a better investment, versus crowding state schools, and in turn, increasing the needed funding for state schools.

If you and other Connecticut politicians should decide to pass your proposed bill, you will be driving talent away from Connecticut. If you decide to eliminate funding for students who attend private schools in Connecticut, myself and many other students are likely to leave the state, to seek opportunities elsewhere. This would greatly deplete the talent pool in Connecticut. It would be a great mistake to allow Connecticut to become known as the state that discriminates against students who attend private schools.

My parents both grew up in Connecticut and have lived in the state, all of their lives. My mom works at an insurance company and my dad owns his own business. The recession has hit my family very hard. My parents cannot afford to help with any of my tuition, so I am forced to take care of it on my own. This has been a very hard burden and has not made life easy. The reason that I am able to attend The University of Hartford is because of the fact that I was awarded numerous academic scholarships. Many of them were business related and they have each had a great impact on allowing me the chance to attend college.

I am a business major and results speak in the business world, as they do in politics. I am working on a double major and double minor. I graduated high school, in the top five percent of my graduating class. Before leaving high school, I had already earned more than two semesters worth of college credits. Long before college, I was taking business classes at my high school. I also took numerous honors and advanced placement classes. As if this was not enough, I have had a paid internship at an insurance company located in downtown Hartford, for almost two

years. Through that experience, I gained valuable experience, as well as earning money that I could put towards my college tuition and other college expenses. My first semester of college, I earned a 3.93 GPA, while working part time. My goal for this semester is to get at least the same GPA and hopefully a 4.0. When I graduate from The University of Hartford, I would like to attend graduate school, at a top business school. When I first start off working, I would like to become an actuary and work my way up in a company. Eventually, I would like to be the CEO of a fortune 100 company. I work very hard in school and in life. Your proposed bill would mean me leaving The University of Hartford, as well as Connecticut.

I had the chance to attend many other universities however; I chose The University of Hartford and the state of Connecticut because I felt that both placed a high value on education. Your proposed bill is making me greatly question my decision and I have already begun looking at other schools, in case the bill should be passed. I do not want to leave the University of Hartford, or Connecticut, but your bill will force me to leave since I will no longer be able to afford the tuition. Mr. Governor, I hope that you reconsider your decision and see how many students it has a grave impact on.

Sincerely,

Brandon Dombroski

Brandon Dombroski